



MEMORANDUM

To: Directors of Financial Aid
Eligible LIFE Scholarship Institutions

From: Dr. Karen Woodfaulk
Director of Student Services

Re: LIFE GPA Update

Date: February 2, 2005

In response to the South Carolina Supreme Court's ruling that sections of the Life Sciences Act 187 were unconstitutional last week, the Commission on Higher Education has made the following decisions:

1. LIFE scholarship awards for the 2004-2005 academic year will not be rescinded.
2. The General Assembly approved a proviso in the budget for 2004-2005 that states: "Those students who were eligible to receive the LIFE Scholarship under the guidelines that existed as of January 1, 2004, shall be eligible to receive the scholarship for the 2004-05 academic year." The Commission on Higher Education will continue with the intent of this proviso. Specifically, the Commission on Higher Education will allow students to use their cumulative GPA from the home institution (old LIFE GPA) or the new LIFE GPA for 2005-2006.
3. Students who would like to have their GPA calculated according to the new LIFE GPA calculations for the 2005-06 academic year, must contact the financial aid office. The student would have the responsibility of submitting their transcripts from all eligible SC institutions to determine eligibility for the LIFE scholarship.

The institutions should notify students about the changes in the eligibility criteria for the LIFE scholarship for 2005-2006 academic year.

We will monitor any legislation regarding the LIFE scholarship during this legislative session. However, it is our intent to allow students to receive the LIFE scholarship under the old or new criteria for Fall 2005.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and patience. If you have any questions, please contact me at 803-737-2244 or Sandra Rhyne, LIFE Scholarship Coordinator at (803) 737-2280.

cc: Directors of Admissions
Registrars
Directors of Enrollment Management